

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO.: 10/766,330

ATTY MATTER NO.: Q79647

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 have been examined in the present application. Claims 7-12 and 15 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant cancels claim 6 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 4-6, 13, 14 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kohno (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,191; hereinafter "Kohno"). Claims 2 and 3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicant submits the following in traversal of the claim rejections.

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable because each and every element of the claim is not disclosed or suggested by Kohno. Claim 1 recites:

A printer comprising:
a print performing unit which can change a structure thereof and in which contents of an executable printing process change depending on the structure;
an apparatus name information storing unit which stores a plurality of apparatus name information as identification information of the apparatus coordinated with the structure; and
a request responding unit for transmitting the apparatus name information coordinated with the structure at that time when a prescribed request is received among the plurality of apparatus name information to an apparatus transmitting the request.

(Emphasis added).

For example, Kohno fails to disclose or suggest an apparatus name information storing unit which stores a plurality of apparatus name information and a request responding unit for

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ATTY MATTER NO.: Q79647

transmitting the apparatus name information coordinated with the structure at that time, in combination with other elements of claim 1.

To the contrary, the printer of Kohno does not store a plurality of apparatus name information and just one name is assigned to the printer. Further, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4 and in the corresponding description in Kohno, according to a request from a host computer 102, a printing apparatus 101 transmits a printing apparatus model code, a code indicating the type of ink cartridge and a code identifying the downloaded engine program to the host computer. The printer, however, does not send apparatus name information coordinated with the structure of the printer at that time. As shown in Fig. 9, the same name for identifying the printer is used even if the printer has a different function.

According to the present invention, a request responding unit of the printer transmits the apparatus name information coordinated with the structure according to a request from an apparatus, and thus, the apparatus which transmits the request can display the printer name corresponding to the structure and a user can grasp as which machine type of the printers the printer operates from the printer name displayed on the display of the computer. See page 26 of the Specification.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those submitted for claim 1, claim 16 is patentable.

Also, for reasons similar to those submitted for claim 1, claims 4, 5, 17 and 18 are patentable. For example, Kohno fails to disclose or suggest an output request responding unit for transmitting a printer name corresponding to the operating state of the print performing unit (claim 4); an output request responding unit for transmitting a device ID corresponding to the

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operating state of the print performing unit (claim 5); a control circuit that transmits a printer name corresponding to the operating state of the print performing unit (claim 17); and a control circuit that transmits a device ID corresponding to the operating state of the print performing unit (claim 18), in combination with other elements in each of the respective claims.

Claims 13 and 14, which depend from claim 1, are patentable for at least the reasons submitted for claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

for S. Stewart Lee (United Recognition
Grant K. Rowan
Registration No. 41,278
N. 10212)

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